

**MINUTES**  
**VILLAGE OF LAKE PARK COUNCIL MEETING**  
**3801 LAKE PARK ROAD, LAKE PARK, NC**  
**BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**7 PM**

**APRIL 24, 2018**

**ATTENDING:** Mayor David Cleveland  
Council Members: John Barnes, Kristen Bowman, Pam Jack, James  
Record and Fabian Szarko  
Finance Officer Cheryl Bennett  
Village Administrator Cheri Clark

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor David Cleveland called the April 24, 2018 Budget Workshop meeting to order.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor David Cleveland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**BUDGET:** Cheryl Bennett provided Council with information concerning the revenue streams for the Village. The Union County Tax Assessors Office provides the Real, Personal and Motor Vehicle assessments. Public Service Values are estimated to remain the same and the Village tax collection rate remains at 99%. One cent of tax yields \$27,581.

Council reviewed the following income and expense line items:

Projected Total Property Taxes - \$639,865  
Stormwater Fees - \$43,080  
State Shared Revenues - \$340,275  
Total Parks & Recreation Revenue - \$66,000  
Other Revenues - \$6,800  
Appropriated Fund Balance - \$75,000  
Total Income - \$1,171,020

Economic Development - \$0 – No funding 2018 – 2019.

Contingency - \$15,000 – Will address additional Strategic Plan items.

Stormwater Expense - \$43,080

Total Planning and Zoning - \$25,688

Total Gen. Govt. Personal Services - \$124,655

Total Professional Fees - \$16,820

Supplies & Materials - \$6,100

Total Services - \$33,920 (funding for Communications - \$3,000 and no funding for Elections and Strategic Planning.)

Total Capital Outlay - \$35,000

Parks & Recreation:

Total P&R Supplies & Materials - \$11,250  
Total P&R Services - \$98,630  
Total Maintenance of Common Areas - \$226,075  
Total P&R Capital Outlay - \$43,000  
Total Parks and Recreation - \$378,955  
Total Public Services/Safety - \$505,787  
Total Expense - \$1,185,005  
Net General Fund – (-\$13,985)  
Powell Bill Income - \$96,250  
Powell Bill Expense - \$96,250

Council discussed that currently in Capital Outlay there is \$160,000 that has been put aside for a Community Center addition. Parks and Recreation's budget increased 2% over last year. Law Enforcement increased 7% over last year. Currently the Village needs \$81,000 to balance the proposed budget. Cheryl Bennett has already appropriated \$75,000 to the Appropriated Fund Balance line item. To balance the budget Council needs to either reduce spending or decide how to fund the remaining \$13,985.

James Record made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss staff compensation at 8:06 pm. Fabian Szarko seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Mayor David Cleveland called the Budget Workshop back into session at 8:30 pm. Kristen Bowman made a motion to increase the Town Clerk's salary by 2% and add an additional week of paid vacation; increase the Zoning Administrator's salary by 3%, the Finance Officer's salary by 4% and increase the Administrative Assistant/Event Coordinator hourly rate by \$1 per hour to \$19.00 an hour. The Mayor and Council stipends will remain the same. Pam Jack seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous. Mayor David Cleveland requested that Cheryl Bennett figure the payroll taxes that will be associated with the increases.

Council reviewed the proposed Fee Schedule for 2018 – 2019 and decided to propose the following changes. Increase the Zoning Map Amendment to \$200 plus the actual costs of mailings and advertisements; Increase Stormwater Management Permit to \$150 plus actual costs of engineering review based on established rate in the Village of Lake Park Schedule of Fees; Increase Final Plat Approval to \$200 plus actual costs of engineering review based on established rate in the Village of Lake Park Schedule of Fees; and Increase Copy of Official Zoning Map to \$10(11 x 17)/ \$45(22 x 34). P&R is also going to review the Community Center Rental Fees and Gazebo Rental Fees for residents and non-residents that have not increased in over 10 years and the cost of Fishing Permits for residents and non-residents.

Currently the Village of Lake Park's stormwater fee is \$2.50 per month/per household. In Union County the average monthly stormwater fee is \$4.17. The Village of Lake Park's density of population/per square mile is 1,590 compared to the other Union County stormwater utilities with an average of 605 population/per square mile. The Village in the current budget has committed \$46,225 for stormwater repairs.



There are three priority projects that need to be funded – Front Entrance Pond, Lake Charles, and Normandy Pond - \$115,000. James Record made a motion to increase all residential lots to \$40 a year, non-residential property over an acre remain the same at \$300 and less than an acre to increase to \$200. Pam Jack seconded the motion. Under discussion James Record amended his motion to \$45 for all residential property, non-residential property under an acre to \$200 and non-residential property over an acre to \$350. Pam Jack seconded the amended motion. Vote – Unanimous. Council then voted on the amended motion to increase all residential stormwater property to \$45 annually, non-residential property under an acre to \$200 and non-residential property over an acre to \$350. Vote - Unanimous.

Council then discussed the current tax rate of \$0.23 per \$100 of evaluation. The tax rate has been the same since 2009. In order to balance the 2018 – 2019 budget, over \$81,000 would need to be appropriated from the Fund Balance. With the aging infrastructure in the Village and the need to at least maintain and/or improve the current parks, playgrounds, structures, amenities and roads, Council discussed a \$0.01 and \$0.02 tax increase. John Barnes made a motion to increase taxes to \$0.24 per \$100 of evaluation. Pam Jack seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Mayor David Cleveland requested that Cheryl Bennett calculate the impact of staff increases, payroll taxes, the increase in stormwater fees and the tax increase to the budget.

James Record discussed the safety issue at Azalea Park Playground. The timbers around the playground are a safety hazard and need to be replaced prior to the installation of new playground mulch. James Record made a motion to spend up to \$2,000 to replace the playground timbers at Azalea Park. Kristen Bowman seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous. James Record also shared that the impact to the power bill for the installation of 240v aerators would be about \$150 per aerator per month.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:** Fabian Szarko shared how much he appreciates Council's willingness to work as a team for the Village of Lake Park.

Mayor David Cleveland thanked everyone for their hard work on the budget and their ability to address the different concerns of the residents.

**ADJOURN:** Fabian Szarko made the motion to adjourn. John Barnes seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Mayor David Cleveland

  
Village Administrator, Cheri Clark

